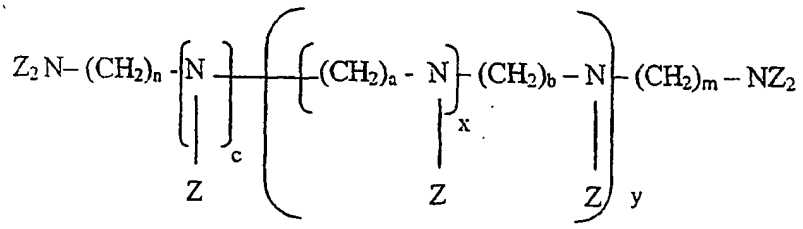
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-16 (Canceled).

17. (New) A method for inhibiting corrosion in, or in connection with, a water-using system, said method consisting of the application or addition to said system of an effective amount of a random copolymer of vinylidene diphosphonic acid and vinyl sulphonic acid in a molar ratio of 1:1 to 1:500 or a phosphonated oligomer having the formula (I):



(I)

wherein

$Z = -CHR_1PO_3R_2$

$R = H, CH_3, C_2H_5$ or M

$R^1 = H, CH_3, CR_3, C_6H_5$, or SO_3H_2

M = alkali metal or ammonium ion

n = 0 to 10

m = 0 to 10

a = 0 to 10

b = 0 to 10

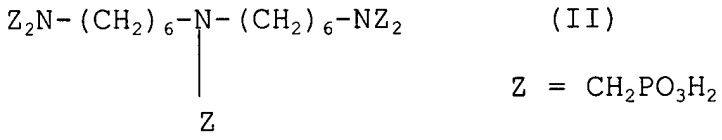
c = 0 or 1

x = 0 to 10

y = 0 to 10

18. (New) A method as claimed in Claim 17 in which the method consists of the application to a metal prior to contact with water of an effective amount of said phosphonated oligomer or of said random copolymer of vinylidene diphosphonic acid and vinyl sulphonic acid.

19. (New) A compound as claimed in Claim 17, in which R and R^1 each = H, n = 6, m = 6, c = 1, y = 0 whereby the compound is bis(hexamethylene)triamine-pentakis (methylene phosphoric acid), as in formula (II):



20. (New) A method as claimed in Claim 18, in which the oligomer or copolymer is used in an effective amount of up to 1000 ppm.

21. (New) A method as claimed in Claim 18, in which the oligomer or copolymer is used in an effective amount of up 250 ppm.

22. (New) A method as claimed in Claim 18, in which the oligomer or copolymer is used in an effective amount of up to 100 ppm.

23. (New) A method as claimed in Claim 17, in which the oligomer or copolymer is used in an effective amount of up to 1000 ppm.

24. (New) A method as claimed in Claim 17, in which the oligomer or copolymer is used in an effective amount of up 250 ppm.

25. (New) A method as claimed in Claim 17, in which the oligomer or copolymer is used in an effective amount of up to 100 ppm.